

Revision of Minimum Rates of Wages

593 Sri M. S. KRISHNAN (Malleswaram)—

Will the Minister for Excise and Labour be pleased to state :—

(a) the employments wherein the minimum rates of wages have been revised under the Minimum Wages Act since 1973 and the extent of revision made in each case (details of both the maximum and minimum rates be given) ;

(b) whether any family budget survey has been made in the employments concerned before fixing the minimum rates of wages ; if not, the reasons ;

(c) whether it is the policy of the Government that the minimum wages would be fixed at Rs. 5 per day ;

(d) if so, the reasons for not giving direction to the authorities concerned that minimum wages should not be less than Rs. 5 per day ;

(e) the reasons for the wage or D. A. not being linked to the varying cost of living as provided under the Act ;

(f) the measures the Government intend to take in order to protect the erosion of real wages due to the increasing cost of living ?

Sri S. M. YAHYA (Minister for Excise and Labour)—

(a) The minimum rates of wages have been revised since 1973 in the case of following employments as detailed in the statement placed on the Table of the House. **

- (1) Tobacco (including bidi making) manufactory.
- (2) Rice, flour or dhal mills.
- (3) Oil mills.
- (4) Public Motor Transport.
- (5) Tile Industry.
- (6) Cashewnut Industry.
- (7) Cotton Ginning and Pressing manufactory.
- (8) Agriculture.
- (9) Road Construction and building operation.
- (10) Stone breaking and stone Crushing operation carried on in any quarry.

* Copy placed in the Karnataka Legislature Library vide No. 31/9 dated 15-3-1975.

The minimum wages Act 1946 provides only to the fixation of Minimum Wages

(b) No. There is no provision under the Act to conduct such surveys.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise in view of reply to clause (c).

(e) Minimum Wages and D. A. are fixed as per the provisions of the Act.

(f) Minimum Wages will be revised frequently as may be necessary in order to check erosion of real wages.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—May I know which are the industries where the minimum wages are not yet fixed according to the Minimum wages Act, other than the ten industries which you have mentioned here?

† SRI S. M. YAHYA.—There are altogether 31 industries. The question is that from 1973 onwards in a number of industries the minimum wages have been revised.

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—Will the Government consider revising minimum wages of these 21 other industries also?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—As the hon. Member is aware once it was thought that revision should take place once in five years and subsequently the thinking was that it should take place every three years. Now due to price rise and other factors we are considering to revise minimum wages as far as possible in certain establishments almost every year. For example, in Beedi industry the Government is contemplating to revise the wages within a year. Similarly in Cashew industry...

SRI M. S. KRISHNAN.—My question is whether the Government will consider revision of minimum wages in the other 21 industries also?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Revision of minimum wages in certain industries is under consideration. If necessary we will certainly revise the wages.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕೆ. ಅಂ. ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸಲಿಂಗಾಚಾರ್ಯ.—ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ (ಉ) ಪ್ರಶ್ನೆಗೆ ಉತ್ತರವಾಗಿ ವಾಣಿಜ್ಯ ವೇತನದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿ ಕಡಿಮೆಯಾಗುವುದನ್ನು ತಡೆಗಟ್ಟಲು ಅವಶ್ಯಕತೆ ಕಂಡುಬಂದಾಗಲೆಲ್ಲ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನವನ್ನು ಪರಿಷ್ಕೃತಗೊಳಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು ಎಂದು ಹೇಳಿದ್ದೀರಿ, ಮುಂದುವರೆ ವೇತನವನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡುವಾಗ ಯಾವ ನೀತಿ ಅಳವಡುವುದನ್ನು ಅನುಸರಿಸುತ್ತೀರಾ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಎಂ. ಯಾಹ್ಯಾ.—ಮುಂದುವರೆ ವೇತನ ಅಕ್ಕವನ್ನೂ ಈ ವಿಷಯದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೈಟಿಂಗಿಂಗಿ ಯಾ ಯಾವುದೇ ಮಾಡಬೇಕು ಎಂದು ಇದೆ. ಅದರಿಂದ ಕೈಟಿಂಗಿಂಗಿಯ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅವನ್ನು ಮಾಡಬೇಕು.

ಶ್ರೀ ಕಾರ್ಗೋಡು ತಿಮ್ಮಪ್ಪ.—ಕಾರ್ಮಿಕರಿಗೆ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನ ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನವನ್ನು ಇದುವರೆಗೂ ಏತಕ್ಕು ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿಲ್ಲ? ಯಾವಾಗ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರಾ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಎಂ. ಯಾಹ್ಯಾ.—ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ವೇತನವನ್ನು ನಿಗತಿ ಮಾಡುವುದಕ್ಕೆ ಎರಡು ವಿಧಾನಗಳು ಇವೆ. ಒಂದು ಕಮಿಟಿ ವಿಧಾನ, where representatives of both the labour and management alongwith the officials sit and take evidence and come to conclusions which the Government may with certain changes or without any change accept. The other method is by issuing notifications and calling for objections etc., and then consider it and take a decision. One of these two methods have to be adopted.

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಂ. ಎಚ್. ಜಯಪ್ರಕಾಶ್ ನಾರಾಯಣ್.—ಮಿನಿಮಮ್ ವೇಜಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ಆಗಿಂದಾಗ್ಗೆ ಪುನಃ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆ ಮಾಡುತ್ತೀರಾ? ಈಗ ಅಗ್ರಿಕಲ್ಚರ್ ರೇಬರರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಎಷ್ಟು ಪುನರ್ ವಿಮರ್ಶೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೀರಿ, ಮತ್ತು ಎಷ್ಟು ದರವನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೀರಿ?

ಶ್ರೀ ಎಸ್. ಎಂ. ಯಾಹ್ಯಾ.—ಒಂದು ತಿಂಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಅಗ್ರಿಕಲ್ಚರರ್ ರೇಬರರುಗಳಿಗೆ ಮಿನಿಮಮ್ ವೇಜಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ರಿವೈಜ್ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಅದು ಹಿಂದೆ 1 ರೂಪಾಯಿ 25 ಪೈಸಾ ಇತ್ತು. ಈಗ 4 ರೂಪಾಯಿ 30 ಪೈಸಾ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ. ಇದರಲ್ಲಿ ಅನೇಕ ಕಟಗರಿಸ್ ಇವೆ. ಇವರಿಗೆ 6 ತಿಂಗಳ ಹಿಂದೆ ಮಿನಿಮಮ್ ವೇಜಸ್ ಅನ್ನು ನಿಗದಿ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದೇವೆ.

Sri M. M. SAJJAN.—Whether the Government would consider to revise the minimum wages in case of spinning Mills?

Sri S. M. YAHYA.—We will consider that. The question is that there should be at least more than one thousand workers of the same category throughout the State.

Sri M. S. KRISHNAN.—The Hon. Minister is well aware that the Minimum Wages Act has already come in for criticism because there is no effective family budget survey conducted in our State. In many other States family budget survey has been conducted and then wages have been fixed. May I ask the Government whether they would consider conducting of a family budget survey and then fix the minimum wages in the State?

Sri S. M. YAHYA.—So far we have not conducted that survey because there are other criteria, according to which, minimum wages are to be fixed. There are three guidelines under the Act. Apart from the two methods I mentioned earlier, the hon. Member is also aware that there is also a Minimum Wages State Advisory Board which would also consider this question wherever necessary,

9-00 A.M.

Sri M. S. KRISHNAN.—My question is about family budget survey;

Sri S. M. YAHYA.—Family budget criteria is quite different and the criteria fixed under the Act are different. So far, we have not accepted the family budget proposal because it may lead to other complications. But, we take into consideration all factors.

Sri M. S. KRISHNAN.—The family budget survey reflects the correct position in regard to the family. So, it will be a fair method to have a family budget survey. Without a family budget survey the minimum wages fixed may be high in some cases and may be low

in other cases. Will the Government consider conducting family budget survey in respect of all these industries at least ?

SRI S. M. YAHYA.—Fixation of minimum wages is a very complicated process. For example, in road building and building-operation industries there are about 60 categories of workers altogether. There are 20 categories in respect of skilled and 30 in respect of unskilled. There are more than 6 categories in one employment. So, it is very difficult to relate the family budget to minimum wages. There are some of the complications which are involved in the fixation of minimum wages which the hon. member is also aware of.

Electric Sub-Division of Chicknayakanahalli Taluk

462. **SRI N. BASAVAI AH** (Chicknayakanahalli) —

Will the Minister of State for Power be pleased to state.—

(a) Since when the electricity sub-division of Chicknayakanahalli was started ;

(b) whether vehicle was provided to the Assistant Engineer there ;

(c) if not, whether vehicle will be provided to him ;

(d) the number of villages in the taluk to which the electricity has been provided ;

(e) the number of villages from whom the applications have been received requesting for the supply of electricity ; the number of villages in respect of which survey work has been completed ; when the electricity will be supplied to the remaining villages ?

SRI S.M. KRISHNA (Minister for Industries and Parliamentary Affairs) [On behalf of] **SRI H. C. SREEKANTAI AH** (Minister of State for Power)] —

(a) No regular Operation and Maintenance Sub-Division is sanctioned at Chicknayakanahally.

(b) No.

(c) Vehicles are provided to regular Operation and Maintenance Sub-Division only.

(d) 93 villages have been electrified in addition to the electrification of 23 hamlets and one town upto 31st December 1974.

(e) Applications have been received from 13 villages in respect of which load survey has also been completed.

For electrification of the remaining villages, it is rather too early to stipulate a time limit as the work of electrification would depend on the feasibility of the schemes and availability of funds.